

Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claim 1. (Currently Amended) A self-inking hand stamp (1) comprising a housing (2), an actuator yoke (3) displaceable relative thereto, in which a stamp character part is mounted by means of axle portions (10, 11) that project through slit-type openings (25) in the side walls (8, 9) of the housing (2), at least one of the axle portions being retained in a seat (26, 27) in one of the lateral parts (12, 13) of the actuator yoke (3) by means of a separate securing element, said securing element being insertable in the seat (26, 27) in axis-parallel manner and snappable therein, the securing element including at least one snap-in element (29, 30; 35) which cooperates with a corresponding snap-in element (31; 37, 38) on the lateral part (12, 13) of the actuator yoke (3), and with a turning mechanism (7) for the stamp plate (6) so as to move the latter during a displacing movement of the actuator yoke (3) relative to the housing (2) from an upper inking position in contact on an ink pad (51) into a lower stamping position, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the securing element is formed by at least one bearing member (14, 15) provided with a cylindrical bearing recess (28)

for the axle portion (10, 11) of a stamp plate (6) provided as stamp character part, which bearing member (14, 15), in axial direction, has several snap-in positions in the lateral part (12, 13) of the actuator yoke (3).

Claim 2. (Currently Amended) A self-inking hand stamp according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the, or each, respectively, bearing member (14, 15) on at least one lateral wall (33) thereof includes at least one lateral snap-in projection (29, 30) on its outer side as snap-in element for snapping-in behind a lateral projection (31) on the boundary (32) of the seat (26, 27) in the lateral part (12, 13) of the actuator yoke (3).

Claim 3. (Currently Amended) A self-inking hand stamp according to claim 2, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the, or each, respectively, bearing member (14, 15) has two lateral snap-in projections (29, 30) located one behind the other in insertion direction.

Claim 4. (Currently Amended) A self-inking hand stamp according to claim 2 ~~or 3, characterized in that,~~ wherein the, or each, respectively, lateral snap-in projection (29, 30) is formed by a generally semi-cylindrical bead.

Claim 5. (Currently Amended) A self-inking hand stamp according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 4, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the, or each, respectively, bearing member (14, 15) includes an upper resilient snap-in tongue (34) having an upper snap-in element (35).

Claim 6. (Currently Amended) A self-inking hand stamp according to claim 5, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the upper snap-in element (35) on the resilient snap-in tongue is formed by a spherical-calotte-shaped projection, and in that in an upper delimiting wall (39) of the seat (26, 27) in the actuator yoke lateral part (12, 13), at least one partially spherical snap-in depression (37, 38) is arranged which cooperates with the said projection.

Claim 7. (Currently Amended) A self-inking hand stamp according to claim 6, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein two partially spherical snap-in depressions (37, 38) are arranged in the upper seat-delimiting wall (39) one behind the other in insertion direction.

Claim 8. (Currently Amended) A self-inking hand stamp according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 7, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the bearing member (14, 15) is designed as a

locking element, too, for locking the actuator yoke (3) on the housing (2) by engagement with the associated housing side wall (8, 9).

Claim 9. (Currently Amended) A self-inking hand stamp according to claim 8, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the, or each, respectively, bearing member (14, 15) includes at least one locking projection (40, 41) and the associated housing side wall (8, 9) includes at least one corresponding depression (45) on its outer side, adjacent the slit-type opening (25).

Claim 10. (Currently Amended) A self-inking hand stamp according to claim 9, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the, or each, respectively, bearing member (14, 15) includes two upper, web-like locking projections (40, 41), and the housing side wall (8, 9) includes at least two depressions (45) on either side of the slit-type opening (25).

Claim 11. (Currently Amended) A self-inking hand stamp according to claim 9 ~~or 10, characterized in that~~ , wherein the, or each, respectively, locking projection (40, 41) on its lower, inner rim has a chamfer (44) provided as control surface for an outward-displacement of the bearing member (14, 15) during downward displacement of the actuator yoke (3) relative to the housing (2).

Claim 12. (Currently Amended) A self-inking hand stamp according to ~~any one of claims 9 to 11, characterized in that~~ claim 9, wherein several depressions (45) are provided one above the other in the associated housing side wall (8, 9) so as to define several locking positions for the actuator yoke (3) on the housing (2).

Claim 13. (Currently Amended) A self-inking hand stamp according to ~~any one of claims 8 to 12, characterized by~~ claim 8, comprising a blocking element which, in its blocking position on the lower rim of the housing (2), blocks the bearing member (14, 15) in its inwardly displaced locking position.

Claim 14. (Currently Amended) A self-inking hand stamp according to claim 13, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the blocking element is formed by a cover (24) which can be slipped onto the lower housing rim.

Claim 15. (Currently Amended) A self-inking hand stamp according to claim 14, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein in the blocked position, the cover (24), with a blocking projection (48) thereof, abuts on a shoulder (49) on the lower side of the bearing member (14, 15).

Claim 16. (Currently Amended) A self-inking hand stamp according to claim 15, ~~characterized in that~~ wherein the blocking projection (48) at the same time forms a snap-in projection (50) which, in the slipped-on position of the cover, engages over a lower frame part (4) of the housing (2).

Claim 17. (Currently Amended) A self-inking hand stamp according to ~~any one of claims 1 to 16, characterized in that~~ claim 1, wherein the bearing member (14, 15) on the actuator yoke (3) has an outer pre-mounting position, a middle operating position, as well as an inner locking position.